

# **MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**

## **OFFICE REPORT**

February 13<sup>th</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002

This report covers an extended period due to the joint management plan review workshops and meetings. Each section is arranged chronologically.

### **Management**

The MBNMS Advisory Council met on February 25 in Salinas. Some of the topics included a presentation from Congressman Leon Panetta on his work as chair of the Pew Oceans Commission, a presentation from members of the agricultural coalition on the Agricultural and Rural Lands Action Plan, and the Council discussed criteria for prioritizing the array of joint management plan review public scoping comments received during the initial scoping process. Special dedications were awarded to Moss Landing Harbor District for their support of the Harbor seat, and the National Steinbeck Center in honor of Steinbeck's centennial celebration.

Bill attended the Leadership Team meeting in Savannah, Georgia on February 19-22.

Lisa de Marignac attended the Big Sur Multi-Agency Advisory Council meeting on Bill's behalf on February 22. Topics included the Sanctuary's management plan review, as well as the update and review of other agencies' plans.

Sean Morton, along with Rod Ehler from NMSP headquarters attended a Sea Grant workshop on February 28 to discuss ongoing needs for socioeconomic analysis for the Joint Management Plan Review as well as other current federal and state marine management projects.

Bill and Lisa de Marignac met with Dennis Long, executive director of Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation, and Mark Shelley of Sea Studios, to discuss future collaborations on media projects such as PSAs and television series.

On March 6, Sean Morton, Erica Burton, and Chris Essert worked with NCCOS and GFNMS staff on the bioregional assessment NCCOS is developing for the Joint Management Plan Process. On March 8, NCCOS gave a presentation to several MBNMS staff on their progress, which is extensive. They are developing useful tools for assessing patterns and correlations between natural resources.

On March 6, Bill spent the day in Santa Cruz. He met with a local diver regarding diving issues, the new director of Save Our Shores regarding collaborative opportunities, and with the city regarding regional fireworks guidelines.

Bill and Sean met with staff from Congresswoman Capps office in San Simeon on March 7 to discuss management plan review scoping comments related to boundary expansion south of MBNMS.

Bill and Sean were in Silver Spring the week of March 12th. Bill attended Ocean and Coastal Program Managers's Meeting. Sean worked with headquarters staff on our Advisory Council's prioritization of issues for the management plan review.

Sean attended the CINMS SAC meeting on March 15.

On Management Plan coordination efforts, Sean Morton represented the MBNMS at an open house on March 19, hosted by Monterey County for their draft General Plan Update. Sean also spoke to a joint meeting of the Pacifica Open Space Committee and the San Pedro Creek Watershed Coalition on March 20 to discuss potential incorporation of the 'exemption zone' off of Pacifica into the MBNMS.

March 20<sup>th</sup>, the BTAP met at the Cannery Row Company in Monterey to get an update on the status of the JMPR process, receive a presentation from staff member, Scott Kathey, on MBNMS Fireworks Guidelines, and discuss the cruise ship issue.

On April 5, the MBNMS SAC met in Santa Cruz at the National Marine Fisheries Service Lab. The SAC had an opportunity to hear public comment relative to the JMPR, receive a summary of individual SAC member issues and be briefed on plans for the April 15th workshop. In addition, they had some time to share their site-specific issues with other SAC members.

On April 15, the MBNMS Advisory Council, along with the Advisory Councils from GFNMS and CBNMS, participated in a workshop to identify priority cross-cutting issues for the Joint Management Plan Review.

The MBNMS RAP met on April 12 at U.C. Santa Cruz to address: the status of the new Ocean Health Center at UCSC; coordinating regional federal funding initiatives; reviewing the role of the RAP; considering the new MPA Center as a member of the RAP; the MBNMS Management Plan; and six other ancillary updates on various projects.

On April 17, Bill Douros gave a presentation to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy at the Monterey Bay Aquarium and joined them for a tour and more presentations at MBARI.

Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> the MBNMS SAC met in Monterey to continue the priority-setting process for site-specific issues related to the JMPR. They were able to rank 43 problem statements. Brady Phillips and Tom Caulton from headquarters facilitated.

Bill Douros gave a presentation on the MBNMS WQPP to the CINMS Advisory Council the week of May 13<sup>th</sup>.

May 15<sup>th</sup>, the BTAP met at the West Marine plant in Watsonville to discuss a number of items including new SAC appointments, cruise ships, JMPR update, and an update on jet skis.

### **Education and Outreach**

The revised general MBNMS brochure is hot from the press and is being distributed to local visitor centers. Copies can be obtained from Jen Jolly.

On March 6, Jen Jolly gave a lecture on the MBNMS to a UC Santa Cruz marine sciences class.

Ecosystem Observations 2001 made its debut at the Currents Symposium on March 9.

The Sanctuary Education Panel met on March 21 to review education-related management plan review scoping comments. They prioritized the concepts to address in the ongoing development of the MBNMS regional education plan.

The Sanctuary Education Panel selected Liz Love as "Sanctuary Educator of the Year," for 2002, in recognition of her tremendous efforts in the development and growth of Sanctuary education. This honor is usually reserved for the public, but there was overwhelming support of the nomination during the selection process. Congratulations Liz.

On March 15, education staff participated in a Santa Cruz Inter-Agency Task Force meeting to develop educational message content for signage along the Santa Cruz Sanctuary Scenic Trail.

On March 18, Jen Jolly gave a presentation on the Student Ocean Conference to 20 high school students in Salinas.

A three-panel interpretive exhibit on the MBNMS has been installed on the Santa Cruz Wharf, outside the Santa Cruz office. The bilingual (English and Spanish) exhibit features the Sanctuary map, natural history of brown pelicans, and the kelp forest community. Viewers can push a button and hear an audio message, such as the "Dirty Words" radio ads, in English or Spanish.

On April 3, Sanctuary staff attended a meeting called by Congressman Sam Farr's office to continue discussion and planning efforts for a Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail from Santa Cruz to Monterey. Last September, MBNMS offered to coordinate a Trail Interpretation Working Group, which has been meeting regularly and has drafted a Trail Concept Paper including a vision and goals. Jen Jolly co-presented the Concept Paper and the working group's progress so far.

Jen Jolly attended the National Association for Interpretation Region 9 workshop April 12-14, including a pre-session on Management for Interpreters to prepare for this summer's Team Ocean Kayak Program.

On April 18, Karen Grimmer gave a Sanctuary 101 presentation to 25 Eco Corps students at Colton Middle School in Monterey.

The Coastal America Student Ocean Conference, co-coordinated by the MBNMS, Monterey Bay Aquarium, and MATE Center, took place on May 10 and 11. Approximately 150 middle and high school students attended, collectively entering 40 student-built ROVs in the ROV Contest and presenting 10 student research presentations during the Student Summit. Additional experiences for the students included a career panel, workshops and field trips, sleeping overnight at the Aquarium and an address by Sylvia Earle. It was a fabulous weekend event.

Dawn has been meeting with the National Forest Service to develop a series of signs for the three beaches they manage along the Big Sur coast.

## Research

Andrew DeVogelaere collaborated on a submitted pre-proposal to Sea Grant on "Delineation of critical inshore spawning grounds for commercially valuable squid fisheries on the east and west coasts of the USA".

On February 12-15, Erica Burton attended the biennial Western Groundfish Conference in Ocean Shores, WA (co-sponsored by the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary). Approximately 50 talks and 30 posters were presented. Topics included marine reserves, species and habitat associations, west coast groundfish surveys, population biology of exploited species, and fish and seabird bycatch issues.

On February 25, Erica Burton attended the Nearshore Resources Cooperative Monitoring meeting in Monterey (videoconferencing from Los Alamitos, CA). The group is working on diver and ROV protocols to provide information for stock assessment, community structure and dynamics, and for the design and evaluation of marine protected areas.

The SIMoN Science Committee met on March 4 to comment on the scientific merit of a series of proposals to do monitoring in Elkhorn Slough, developing a hydrological model of Elkhorn Slough, and monitoring effects of the Duke power plant thermal plume in Monterey Bay. Contracts to awardees will be completed in about one month.

Because of SIMoN, Andrew DeVogelaere was invited to join the Steering Committee for the Central Coast Comprehensive Wetland GIS Database project. The California Coastal Commission, in partnership with the California Conservation Corps and Morro Bay National Estuary Program, is undertaking this EPA-funded project. GIS wetland layers will be developed in a fashion presentable to resource managers, including an ARCIMS web site.

Erica Burton finished reviewing the latest draft of the Central California Eco-linkages report. She also reviewed the draft update of the Status of MBNMS Fisheries book (to be available at the Sanctuary Currents event).

On March 9, Bill and Andrew met with Captain Craig McClean to discuss Office of Ocean Exploration partnerships with MBNMS: the Davidson Seamount expedition and the planning workshop.

On March 10, Andrew gave the wrap-up presentation at a half-day symposium on the PISCO project. PISCO is an extensive monitoring program for kelp and rocky shore communities, undertaken by investigators at University of California Santa Barbara, Stanford's Hopkins Marine Station, University of California at Santa Cruz, and Oregon State University. The title of the talk, developed by Andrew and Bill, was "Perspectives on effective marine management: how is PISCO contributing?"

Bill, Andrew and Kelly helped host a regional planning workshop for the new Office of Ocean Exploration on March 21 and 22. The meeting was located at MBARI and attended by scientists from CA, WA, and OR.

During the West Coast Monitoring cruise aboard the R/V McArthur (March 7-10), MBARI and UCSC scientists surveyed CalCOFI Line 67, southwest of Monterey Bay. Water samples were collected for nutrient and chlorophyll analyses, and zooplankton were collected and preserved for identification. Irradiance was also measured. Data from this cruise and additional surveys will be incorporated into SIMoN.

Andrew DeVogelaere and Bill Douros are involved with planning and implementation of several rapidly developing monitoring efforts: SIMoN, the OCNMS Subtidal Program, the NMSP System Wide monitoring program, the UCSC Initiative for a Center for Integrated Marine Technology, and the California State University Initiative for a Center for Integrated Coastal Ocean Research. MBCORC is currently compiling summaries of all the major initiatives in development in the greater Monterey Bay region.

Millions of bright blue By-the-wind Sailors (Velella velella) have washed up onto MBNMS beaches over the past few weeks. The Velella were documented by all of the Beach COMBERS out walking their beaches last week. As a result of these large concentrations of Velella velella, the MBNMS has received a rash of oil spill reports from throughout the Sanctuary over the past two weeks. Investigations have confirmed each sighting to be Vellela vellela, iridescent invertebrates that float at the ocean surface. These organisms are usually found far offshore, but are often driven inshore by the millions in the spring by southwesterly winds. The MBNMS has placed a notice about this phenomenon on the first page of its website.

Bill Douros and Andrew DeVogelaere are working closely with the University of California and other partners in developing the upcoming NOAA funded initiative "Monterey Bay Crescent Center for Integrated Marine Technologies." This initiative will study upwelling ecosystems, develop technology to transfer data, and feed into the SIMoN program.

A new Beach COMBERS training class started April 26 with 12 new volunteers! The training will continue for three more Saturdays and will cover Seabird and Marine Mammal identification as well as how to sample oil on the beach. Other instructors for the class include Jim Harvey and Hannah Nevins of Moss Landing Marine Labs.

A Special Issue of Marine Geology (Volume 181, Issue 1-3) is now available, which is aimed at developing a better characterization of the MBNMS environment. Sixteen research articles are contained in the volume. Many of them characterize the coastal and seafloor geologic environment, while others are concerned with geologic processes active in the Sanctuary and along the coastline. Erica Burton is a co-author on one of the articles entitled, "Accumulation rate and mixing of shelf sediments in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary."

MBNMS staff, Bruce Terrell (ONMS), and Robert Schwemmer (CINMS) reviewed a draft version of the Submerged Cultural Resources Study: 2001 (written by Sheli Smith and Jack Hunter, Underwater Archaeological Consortium). Erica Burton consolidated all comments into one review, and sent it to the co-authors for incorporation into a final version.

Staff have prepared for the Davidson Seamount cruise which departed from Moss Landing on May 17. Information on these cruises can be found on the Office of Ocean Exploration web site at <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/explorations.html>

MBNMS Research and SIMoN are partners on the Center for Integrated Marine Technologies proposal "From wind to whales: understanding California's upwelling ecosystems." In addition to better understanding how the physical processes in the regions influence ocean chemistry and the distribution of animals, instrumentation will be developed to standardize data formats of streams coming off of mooring instrumentation, and developing new ways of visualizing monitoring information

This month the Beach COMBERS program celebrates its five-year anniversary! The *Velella velella* is still rafting in. We've had quite a few pinnipeds in the last four weeks: 2 elephant seals, 2 sea lions and 3 harbor seals. Common Murres and Pigeon Guillemots are transitioning back into breeding plumage. The Southern California domoic acid event is affecting animals in the Monterey Bay; seizing animals have come ashore from Monterey County south to San Diego.

MBNMS is a partner on a proposal to Sea Grant to map squid spawning grounds. The lead scientist on the effort is Roger Hanlon from Woods Hole.

The Research Activities Panel met on May 10<sup>th</sup> at CSUMB. After an institutional update on CSUMB by Steve Moore, Satie Airame presented the draft Biogeography / Ecolinkages Report of the Joint Management Plan Review. After her presentation there was a discussion on feedback and ways that RAP members can help review the draft report.

### **Resource Protection**

Holly Price met with the reserve subcommittee of the Community Alliance for Sustainable Fisheries on February 15 to revise evaluation criteria for potential reserve locations. The group decided to organize its materials to provide additional input to the new regional CDFG reserve committees and will be nominating a number of representatives to participate.

Bridget Hoover completed a new brochure on the Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network. The brochure describes network goals, shows sampling locations and acts as a recruitment tool for water quality monitoring volunteers.

The Salinas Californian newspaper has agreed to do a weekly column on agricultural conservation practices which protect Sanctuary water quality. Katie Siegler and Daniel Mountjoy of the NRCS will work with a Californian reporter to write the columns.

Resource Protection staff presented regional fireworks guidelines to local jurisdictions. The guidelines were developed by Scott Kathey, in conjunction with the Resource Protection team, NMFS, and USFWS staff. The new regional quota system sets annual limits on the number of events in sensitive bird and marine mammal habitats to prevent the proliferation of new fireworks shows, and allows historical community events to continue under 5 year permit authorizations with specific conditions. In meetings in Santa Cruz and Monterey, Scott Kathey, Deirdre Hall and Bill Douros presented the guidelines to the cities of Santa Cruz, Monterey and Pacific Grove, Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation, and the Monte Foundation. The guidelines were well received by all, although Monterey has some concerns about their discussions in the future with USFWS on measures to protect snowy plover habitat in adjacent dunes during public displays.

Scott Kathey and Bill Douros participated in a conference call with headquarters, GFNMS and CINMS staff to reach agreement on a unified California sanctuary policy on dispersant use in the event of a major oil spill, prior to upcoming USCG committee decisions on the issue. Call participants generally concurred with Scott's draft analysis and recommended policy paper on the issue, and agreed that dispersant use may occur in the Sanctuary outside of state waters, provided that conditions are appropriate and the Sanctuary Superintendent has been contacted and has concurred in each specific case.

Deirdre Hall and Lisa Emanuelson met with the Experimental Aircraft Association of Marina. Deirdre gave a presentation to the group of 25 pilots on the effects of low flying aircraft on marine mammals and birds in sensitive areas, specifically the Overflight Restriction Zones, in an effort to inspire and encourage pilots to fly at or above 1000 AGL.

Last week Scott Kathey led a meeting with the USCG, CDFG, local harbors, salvors and other agencies to evaluate means to improve prevention and response to groundings and sinkings of small vessels and to reduce associated damage from spills and debris.

On March 5, Holly Price met with the Caltrans Coast Highway storm damage committee to recommend landslide management and monitoring measures related to recently completed technical studies.

Bill Douros, Holly Price and Erica Burton attended a Fishermen's Forum on marine reserves sponsored by Save Our Shores and the Community Alliance for Sustainable Fisheries on March 18 and 19 (NMSP was also a financial supporter of the meeting). The event was a good opportunity to share information, with over 150 participants, including 80 fishermen, participating productively in listening to presentations and discussing the pros and cons of reserves.

Bridget Hoover, Watershed Network Coordinator, helped to organize and participated in the quarterly Monterey County Watershed Information Exchange hosted by the Garrapata Watershed Council. The agenda included a presentation by Monterey County Planners on the Monterey County General Plan update. Also, a representative from the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program discussed water quality monitoring programs going on within the Sanctuary.

Katie Siegler presented an update on the Pescadero/Butano Watershed Assessment, managed by the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation, to the Pescadero Municipal Advisory Council.

Bridget Hoover met with Steve Leiker, Pacific Grove Public Works Director, to finalize the brochure for the Auto Industry outreach program. We also discussed this year's Urban Watch season.

Holly Price and Scott Kathey met with California Coastal Commission staff to review and revise a draft outline of regional guidelines for coastal armoring. We are also working towards CCC incorporating Sanctuary conditions into many of their smaller permits and establishing criteria for full Sanctuary permit review of larger or more sensitive projects. Anyone interested in our coastal armoring efforts should contact Holly or Scott.

Holly Price and Deirdre Hall met with the Regional Water Quality Control Board to discuss resolution of the Sanctuary objection to their general permit for desalination within the NMS. The regional board is amenable to developing an agreement with us that states that the general permit would not be for facilities within the MBNMS. The permit will likely be revisited in September.

In response to the newspaper reports that three large cruise ships planned visits to Monterey this spring and fall, Lisa de Marignac drafted an initial summary of concerns and questions related to potential pollution and wildlife disturbance, educational opportunities associated with cruise ship visits, recent federal and state actions and resources, and proposed "next steps".

Holly and Lisa de Marignac met with the Conservation Working Group on March 12. The group reviewed and voted on their priorities for management plan review issues, and had a lengthy discussion regarding the upcoming arrival of cruise ships in Monterey. The CWG finalized a draft cruise ship letter to the SAC regarding short-term and long-term issues to address regarding pollution, wildlife impacts and monitoring needs.

Lisa de Marignac and Holly met with city staff and local tourism representatives on March 26 to brainstorm short-term solutions in preparation for the May, September and October cruise ship visits. Lisa is also working on setting up a second meeting with the City of Monterey as well as other agencies (Coastal Commission, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Coast Guard) and environmental groups. This second meeting will address long-term solutions as well as the short-term issues. The Conservation Working Group and the Business and Tourism Activity Panel discussed cruise ships at their 3/12/02 and 3/20/02 meetings. The CWG sent a letter to the SAC and MBNMS outlining concerns, and the BTAP addressed the issue more fully at its meeting in May.

Lisa de Marignac and Holly Price met with city staff and local tourism representatives on March 26 regarding the cruise ship visits to brainstorm short-term solutions. Items discussed included concerns, opportunities and solutions regarding this issue.

The MBNMS Damage Assessment Survey Team returned to the F/V Bono grounding site at John Little State Reserve on March 25. The Survey Team made assessments of impacts to habitat and biota from the grounded vessel, mapped the site, and assessed the condition of the vessel and debris. A written report will follow. The Team will revisit the site periodically to monitor changes to the intertidal, as well as changes to the vessel and debris field.

On March 28, Bill Douros, Holly Price and Erica Burton participated in a meeting at the Sanctuary of the reserve committee of the Community Alliance for Sustainable Fisheries. To better understand the pros and cons of potential reserve locations, the group heard presentations on the physical oceanography off the Central Coast, as well as talks by fishermen on the locations of important commercial squid fishing grounds and recreational fishing areas. A 30-foot trimaran grounded on Pomponio State Beach last week. Scott Kathey confirmed that Coast Guard and State Parks removed the fuel cells from the vessel. The vessel was not insured, and the owner lacks funds to effect immediate removal. The hull was intact following the grounding, and State Parks has been working with the owner to arrange removal of the vessel.



The final Snapshot Day 2001 report was completed and mailed to thirty Sanctuary partners, including local jurisdictions and agencies. This report summarizing citizen water quality monitoring results indicates high levels of nutrients and coliform bacteria in a number of tributaries, and is now available on the Network website at

<http://www.mbnms.nos.noaa.gov/monitoringnetwork/events.html>

Deirdre Hall gave a presentation on the hazards of low-flying aircraft to marine mammals and birds, as well as the Sanctuary overflight Restriction Zones, to the Pilot's Experimental Aircraft Association of Watsonville in an effort to educate pilots and promote stewardship of the resources. Lisa Emanuelson is concurrently working on developing posters to disseminate information to pilot associations, while Sanctuary staff hope for a resolution of the un-enforceability of this regulation with General Counsel and the FAA.

On April 10, MBNMS co-hosted a meeting with the City of Monterey on cruise ship stop-overs in Monterey Bay, focusing on the May 7 arrival of the Star Princess. At the start of the meeting, Lisa de Marignac announced that on April 9, Princess Cruises had committed to zero-discharge while operating within MBNMS boundaries during its May visit. Approximately fifty people attended the meeting including representatives from Federal, state, and local government agencies; environmental groups; and business and tourism organizations. The first half of the meeting included presentations from MBNMS; the City of Monterey; the local tour operator conducting land tours for the May 7 visit; Bluewater Network, the non-profit who has petitioned US EPA and the State of California regarding cruise ships; the CA State Water Resources Control Board; and the San Francisco Bay Pilots Association. The second half of the meeting served as workshop where all participants discussed the issues associated with cruise ships in the context of jurisdiction (enforcement and monitoring) and actions. The discussion of issues focused on air quality impacts; black water discharges; gray water discharges; detergents from deck wash downs; hazardous waste; solid waste; ballast water; seafloor and habitat damage; marine mammal and bird harassment; user conflicts; groundings and spills. We also discussed opportunities for education and outreach. All in all, the meeting was very constructive and participants were interested in re-convening the group to focus on long-term solutions.

Lisa de Marignac and Holly Price met with representatives from Princess Cruises on April 17, along with staff from the City of Monterey and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Princess provided an environmental tour of the Star Princess on May 7, and we discussed the possibility of another meeting with the industry on that day which would include Royal Caribbean and Crystal Cruises, both whom will stop in Monterey Bay later this year.

Deirdre Hall gave a presentation to the Salinas Owners and Pilots Association on the Sanctuary overflight restriction zones, and the adverse effects low flying aircraft has on species of concern. The majority of the pilots in attendance were not aware of the restriction, as it does not appear listed as such on the aeronautical charts with which they navigate.

Enforcement violations under investigation this past week include harassment of elephant seals at Piedras Blancas; discharge of cement effluent to sanctuary waters resulting in elevated pH; and illegal removal of jade with a crowbar.

The State Water Resources Control Board has agreed to provide the Sanctuary Foundation with \$229,000 in funding to conduct a sediment assessment, conduct trainings and develop best

management practices for the Pescadero watershed. Contracts and budgets have been finalized and Katie Siegler has begun overseeing the subcontracts for the work, which will help evaluate pollutant sources and pathways and conduct agricultural erosion control measures to improve salmonid habitat.

Holly gave a presentation at the Monterey Bay Aquarium on Sanctuary conservation issues to the marine Board of Directors of the World Wildlife Fund. There were also talks on MBNMS by related panelists from the Ocean Conservancy and the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries. In addition to covering the range of resource protection issues facing the site, a particular focus of all three talks was MBNMS approach to fishery issues and marine reserves.

Scott Kathey responded to the sinking of a 30-foot power boat at a mooring adjacent to Monterey Harbor. The vessel was successfully raised and floated to a haul-out facility within two days of discovery, with minimal direct or collateral environmental impacts. The MBNMS Dive Team assessed seabed impacts prior to recovery.

Scott submitted a packet for inclusion in the NMS vessel needs assessment and met with Dana Wilkes to discuss ongoing and upcoming changes to NMS small boat management policies.

Bill Douros, Holly Price and Deirdre Hall met with representatives of the Naval Post Graduate School to discuss the MBNMS requirement to remove pieces of the Big Sur SOSUS array cables that were discharged back to the bottom during a retrieval and repair operation. The Navy agreed to develop a written assessment of the feasibility of a recovery operation.

Enforcement investigations initiated by Carol Teraoka include reports of potential illicit discharge from a vessel, and possible unlawful salvage operations at a known archaeological site.

Lisa de Marignac and Bill Douros attended a special session of the Monterey City Council on April 24. City staff presented their action plan for the three cruise ship arrivals in Monterey Bay this year, focusing on the upcoming May 7 visit. Lisa provided testimony regarding MBNMS concerns and actions regarding the cruise ship visits. The City Council unanimously voted to not welcome any cruise ships in the future that don't agree to a no-discharge policy within the MBNMS.

Deirdre Hall was awarded her United States Coast Guard Captain's License in Alameda, CA last week.

Scott Kathey participated in teleconferences regarding resources at risk and NRDS for the SS Luckenbach.

Holly Price and Katie Siegler presented an implementation update on the Sanctuary's agricultural water quality plan to the Board of Directors for the Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Monterey County. The Board has recently hired two new staff members to assist in implementing the plan using grant funding from the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

MBNMS submitted comments to the California Department of Fish and Game on both their nearshore fishery and squid fishery plans, emphasizing the need to specifically incorporate ecosystem considerations into fishery management measures.

Enforcement agent Carol Teraoka worked with NMFS and the City of Monterey to ensure that the efforts of the city's volunteer Sea Lion Watch program to keep the animals off the docks did not constitute a violation of the MMPA, and coordinated with the city to get the proper documentation to NMFS.

The Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network conducted a training at CSUMB on May 3 for local non-profits, agencies and individuals on "How to Establish and Sustain a Watershed Monitoring Program".

On May 7, the *Star Princess* arrived in Monterey Bay early in the morning, but due to rough sea conditions, she did not drop anchor and left Monterey Bay around 8:00 am and headed on to San Francisco. Nonetheless, Lisa de Marignac and Holly Price met with representatives from Princess Cruises, Royal Caribbean, Crystal Cruises, the International Council of Cruise Lines, and other government agencies to discuss the remaining two visits for this year. Royal Caribbean and Crystal Cruises committed to a no-discharge policy while in MBNMS, and agreed to put their commitments in writing. We are waiting on records from Princess Cruises that will verify their no-discharge promise.

A presentation on sanitary sewer overflows and impacts on storm drain systems and receiving waters was given to a regional meeting of the California Rural Water Association, including 40 attendees from Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties.

### **Special Events**

On February 28, several MBNMS staff attended a workshop, organized by Rick Starr (California Sea Grant), to identify needed socioeconomic studies associated with marine activities in central California.

Staff co-coordinated with AMBAG the annual "Sanctuary Currents Symposium" on Saturday, March 9, at California State University Monterey Bay. This year's theme was "New Technologies: Revealing the Secrets of the Sea." There were 8 speakers, including Captain Craig N. McLean from the Office of Ocean Exploration, and Dr. Jane Lubchenco from Oregon State University (Rickett's Memorial Lecture); and 40 research posters by local agencies, universities, graduate students, and high school students. The new Ecosystems Observations was distributed. On Sunday, at the same location, the MBNMS participated in a public symposium on the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO).

Sean Morton and Erica Burton participated in an all-day CA Biogeographic Assessment project meeting with the NCCOS BioGeography group on Wednesday at the GFNMS office.

Bridget Hoover led the Third Annual Snapshot Day event on Earth Day, April 20. The event included 120 volunteers sampling water quality in 110 rivers and creeks that drain to the Sanctuary.

Bruce Terrell (ONMS) and Bob Schwemmer (CINMS) visited the Monterey office on April 10, and gave presentations to staff, highlighting the Office of National Marine Sanctuary's

Submerged Cultural Resources program; the Pacific Coast Maritime Archaeological Summary; and west coast shipwrecks.

Three separate water quality monitoring trainings for Snapshot Day were conducted in San Mateo, Santa Cruz and Monterey counties on Saturday, April 13th. Twenty-four people attended the Monterey hub training.

The Third Annual Snapshot Day, coordinated by Bridget Hoover, was a great success as an Earth Day event. It has grown each year--this year seven MBNMS staff and 150 community volunteers turned out to sample water quality in 175 creeks, rivers and storm drains in four coastal counties bordering the Sanctuary. Samples and data collected will address coliform bacteria, nitrates, temperature, turbidity, pH, and other indicators of stream health. Jen Jolly spent Saturday at the Santa Cruz Snapshot Day hub, helping to coordinate volunteers and monitoring equipment. Michele Roest coordinated Cambria's Snap Shot Day activities in the southern region and Lisa Emanuelson assisted Bridget Hoover, Erica Burton and Kelly Newton at sites in Monterey County.

Sean Morton and Dawn Hayes attended the Earth Day fair in San Luis Obispo at the request of Congresswoman Lois Capps' Office.

Karen Grimmer hosted at-risk students, attending a careers class on a cruise with O'Neill Sea Odyssey where careers in education, marine technologies, US Coast Guard and State Parks were highlighted.

Kelly Newton organized a cleanup in the Monterey Harbor of the invasive kelp, Undaria. Dr. Pam Roe from CSU Stanislaus and her class spotted Undaria attached to boat docks on March 16. On that day they spotted 6-12 non-mature plants less than 1 ft in length. On Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, the class removed 325 individual Undaria, almost all were sexually mature, and they ranged in size from 50 cm to 2m. The total biomass collected was 125 lbs!

The Sunday, April 28th, Dia Del Nino Festival at Monterey Bay Aquarium was overwhelmingly successful in terms of the huge number of Hispanic visitors. MBNMS and Save Our Shores co-hosted Sanctuary-related activities, and interacted directly with over 1,500 family members.

We are continuing to work with regional partners to develop Camp S.E.A. Lab Monterey Bay for children ages 8 to 13. Currently UC Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science MARE program is helping to develop S.E.A. Lab's curricula for the camps this summer. This summer S.E.A. Lab will offer two kinds of camp experiences: day camp programs from June 17-21 based at Elkhorn Slough National Research Reserve and June 24-28 at Stanford's Hopkins Marine Station, as well as residential camps July 22-26, July 29- August 2, and August 5-9 based at UC Santa Cruz. Grant funding is being used to support the participation of 60 low-income, minority students to attend the residential camps.

Bill Douros represented the California Marine Sanctuaries at a dedication on May 11<sup>th</sup>, of BLM's new California Coastal National Monument. The MBNMS signed a statement of intent to develop a cooperative agreement with BLM to manage the monument.

### **Media Coverage, February 13<sup>th</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002**

These represent only those printed, televised or broadcast stories relating to the Sanctuary or ocean issues that have come to our attention. It is likely there are others.

“Sewage spill hits Cannery Row beach” Monterey County Herald, 2/13/2002

“Surfrider Foundation endorses jet-ski ban; Some local surfers oppose the move” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 2/16/02

“Study examines Santa Cruz County watershed contamination” by Robin K. Mejia, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 2/18/02

“New university ocean center emphasizes research, policy” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 2/20/02

“New study takes a look at ocean's health” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 2/21/02

“Research network to track coastal water conditions” Santa Cruz Sentinel, 2/21/02

“Bay area may be in hot water over dumping” by Colleen Valles, LA Times, 2/21/02

“Rough skis ahead: will tow-in surfing be banned in Northern California?” Surflife.com, 2/21/02

“The mayor who would be king” by Anne Quinn, New Times, 2/22/02

“Machine age clash among surfers”, The New York Times, 2/25/02

“Cruise ships planning stops in Monterey Bay”, Monterey County Herald, 2/26/02

“Watching -- and debating – whales”, Associated Press, 2/26/02

“Sanctuary, farmers team up”, Emily Wilson, Half Moon Bay Review, 2/27/02

“Council strengthens stance against marine sanctuary”, Morro Bay Sun Bulletin, 2/27/02

“Marine sanctuaries carry costs”, opinion piece by James Wood, local marine surveyor, Morro Bay Sun Bulletin, 2/27/02.

“The poop deck”, Coast Weekly, 2/28/02

“Bay's Toxic "Tides"”, Monterey County Herald, 3/4/02

“State Park docent training programs”, Monterey County Herald, 3/4/02

On March 7, Bill was interviewed by a local radio station regarding MBNMS urban runoff programs.

“Seafood warning issued” Monterey County Herald, 3/6/02

“Welcome to Cannery Mall” Coast Weekly, 3/7/02

"Marine biologists urged to do more proactive work: researcher at Monterey Bay event links science, policy” San Jose Mercury News, 3/10/02

“Ocean scientists eye bigger public profile” Monterey County Herald, 3/10/2002

“Cruise ships make welcome return” Monterey County Herald Opinion, 3/10/02

“Monterey coastline "dynamic"” Monterey County Herald, 3/11/2002

“Abalone disease moving north, could wreak havoc here” by Robin Mejia, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/13/02

“Coastal ecosystem changes more rapidly than once thought” by Robin Mejia, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/13/02

“Cannery Row project rejected” Monterey County Herald, 3/14/02

“Save birds from fishing line” Letter to the editor, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/14/02

“Gray whales may be making a comeback” Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/18/02

“Skepticism lingers in marine reserve debate: Fishermen fear loss of income” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/19/02

“Groups fight cruise ships” Monterey County Herald, 3/19/2002

“City plans field's future; Many changes, ideas afoot for Westside Park” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/20/02

“Judge may hear Duke lawsuit” Coast Weekly, 3/21/02

“Ocean View Plaza stalled” Coast Weekly, 3/21/02

“Environmentalists missing the boat” Letter to the editor, Monterey County Herald, 3/21/02

“Give cruise ships a chance” Letter to the editor, Monterey County Herald, 3/21/02

“Pollution solution: City declares war on tainted water” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/22/02

“Pioneer marine biologist honored” by Jondi Gumz, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/22/02

“Report needed on cruise ship impact” Letter to the editor, Monterey County Herald, 3/22/02

“Ships may damage sea life” Letter to the editor, Monterey County Herald, 3/22/02

“Naturally occurring marine toxin suspected in deaths of 22 dolphins” Santa Cruz Sentinel, AP, 3/23/02

“Conference puts a new spin on sharks” Monterey County Herald, 3/23/02

“Natural toxin blamed in California dolphin deaths” Monterey County Herald, AP, 3/23/02

“Shark project results in litigation frenzy” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel 3/24/02

“Oiled birds still being found along shores” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/24/02

"Whale of a dilemma; As killer whales hunt sea otters to near extinction, UCSC scientists wonder if humans should intervene" by Kendall Powell, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/24/02

"Kauai teen survives shark attack" by AP, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/27/02

Toxin may be culprit in sea lion deaths Monterey County Herald, 3/28/02

"The signs look good for salmon as sport season opens" by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/28/02

"Secret deep-sea program, faulted for diver's death, led to spying coups: SeaLab not a failure, say vets hoping to recover place in history" by AP, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/29/02

"Indian families gear up for gray whale hunt" by AP, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/29/02

P.G. tide-pool coalition seeks more protection for fauna by Dennis Moran, Monterey County Herald, 3/31/02

"Lighthouse effort meets financial goal" by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/31/01

"Reeling in the salmon: The season begins for salmon and local fishermen are taking to the ocean" Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/31/02

"Purchase could be near for S.F. Bay tidal marshes" by AP, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/31/02

"Fewer abalone up for grabs this season" by AP, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/1/02

Cruise ships, the environment and the economy Monterey County Herald, 4/1/02

Cruises returning to central coast by Ken McLaughlin, San Jose Mercury News, 4/1/02

Elephant seals a big spectacle. Huge creatures dot coast Monterey County Herald, 4/2/02

"Sailor gets tangled up in blue: Novice spent two hours in frigid water before rescue" by Cathy Redfern, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/3/02

"Research mistreats seals" Letter to the Editor in Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/3/02

On April 3, Bridget Hoover, Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Network Coordinator, and Tamara Doan of the Coastal Watershed Council were guests on a 30 minute radio program dedicated to Snapshot Day on KUSP called "Talk of the Bay"

Realistic awards sought Letter to the Editor in Monterey County Herald, 4/4/02

"Small sea creatures sail onto local beaches" by staff, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/5/02

Raw Sewage Seeps Into Storm Drain, Ocean Monterey County Herald, 4/5/02

Blue 'jellies' jam shores-wind pushes 'sailors' to local beaches Monterey County Herald, 4/6/02

Coastal monument headquartered in Monterey Monterey County Herald, 4/7/02

Cruise ships: Boon or bust? Commentary, Monterey County Herald, 4/7/02

Cruise ships aid tourism Letter to the Editor, Monterey County Herald, 4/8/02

"Tide pools are still unprotected" Letter to the Editor, Monterey County Herald, 4/9/02

"Cruise Line Says it Won't Dump Waste in Sanctuary" by Cristina Medina, Monterey County Herald, 4/11/02

"Cruise Ships vs. Sewer Spills" Letter to the Editor in Monterey County Herald, 4/13/02

"Investigate Other Spills" Letter to the Editor in Monterey County Herald, 4/13/02

"No Cruise Ships in Bay" Letter to the Editor in Monterey County Herald, 4/14/02

"Cruise Ships Still a Threat" Letter to the Editor in Monterey County Herald, 4/15/02

"Economy to Benefit From Cruise Ship" Chamber Link in Monterey County Herald, 4/15/02

The Media Advisory inviting reporters to the field sampling events for Snapshot Day 2002 was released on April 12. Media packets for key reporters were also mailed which included the 2001 report.

"Promise questioned" Letter to the Editor, Monterey County Herald, 4/16/02

"Don't disturb seals" Letter to the Editor, Monterey County Herald, 4/16/02

"Earth Day activities planned to celebrate nature" by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/17/02

Welcome, cruise ships" Letter to the Editor, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/17/02

"Ocean Commission visits Monterey" by staff, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/17/02

"Coastal living takes toll on ocean habitats, environment, study says" by Amy Ettinger, Monterey County Herald 4/17/02

Earth Day brings check of creek contaminants The Cambrian, 4/18/02

"Earth Day brings check of creek contaminants" by Kathe Tanner in The Cambrian, 4/18/02

Bacteria counts decrease at Main, Cowell beaches Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/20/02

Cowell, Main beaches serve as a dog latrine Letter to the Editor, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/20/02

"Tide pool conservation" Letter to the Editor in Monterey County Herald, 4/21/02

"Coast needs no deadbolt" Letter to the Editor in Monterey County Herald, 4/22/02

Be good to kayakers Letter to the Editor, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/23/02

Surfers, kayakers discuss conflict; Kayak controversy has international overtones by Dan White, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/23/02



Kayakers need love, too Letter to the Editor, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/23/02

"Suit filed over cruise ships' ballast" by Ken McLaughlin in Monterey County Herald, 4/25/02

"Shore is cute" by Kevin Howe in Monterey County Herald, 4/25/02

"Hurting turtles, Leatherbacks are threatened by beach development and long-line fishing." by Traci Hukill in The Weekly, 4/25/02

"Princess says she can hold it" in The Weekly, 4/25/02

"It's the water: and a lot more" in The Cambrian, 4/25/02

Beach reopened after bacteria levels decrease Santa Cruz Sentinel, 4/27/02

"Princess will be test case for ships; other lines must also agree not to pollute" by Amy Ettinger in Monterey County Herald, 4/27/02

"Duke expansion nears despite suit; Estuarine food chain feared to be in peril" by Dennis Moran in Monterey County Herald, 4/28/02

"Boater has whale of a tale to tell" by Amy Ettinger, The Monterey County Herald, 5/1/02

"Planning for protection; Management plans for central California sanctuaries under revision" in Sport Diver Magazine, 5/2002

"California coasting" in Sport Diver Magazine, 5/2002

"Please don't touch coastal critters" Letter to the Editor, The Monterey County Herald 5/4/2002

"Cruise ships a risk" Letter to the Editor, The Monterey County Herald, 5/5/2002

"Cruise ships bring out business community" Chamber Link, The Monterey County Herald, 5/6/2002

Groups to monitor cruise-ship visit by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 5/5/02

"Trunk diver's paradise" in Rodale's Scuba Diving Magazine, 6/2002

"Princess Cruises comes to Monterey Bay" by Amy Ettinger, The Monterey County Herald, 5/7/02

"California gray whale death rate drops" by Jessica Brice, The Monterey County Herald, 5/7/02

"Cruise ship gone with the wind" by Amy Ettinger, The Monterey County Herald, 5/8/02

"Search is on for killer plankton; Puzzling sea life malady" by Michael McCabe, The San Francisco Chronicle, 5/8/02

"Carmel angler lands a whopper" by Victoria Manley, The Monterey County Herald, 5/9/02

"Cruise ship passengers get bus ride to Monterey" The Monterey County Herald, 5/9/02

"Mother Nature teaches a lesson" Letter to the Editor, The Monterey County Herald, 5/9/02

"Crabs may signal El Nino" The Monterey County Herald, 5/9/02

"Cruise visit would have brought cash; what a waste" by Joe Livernois, The Monterey County Herald, 5/10/02

"Cruise ships help business" Letter to the Editor, The Monterey County Herald, 5/11/02

"Please, do not disturb" Letter to the Editor, The Monterey County Herald, 5/12/02

"Kayakers, surfers talk turf conflict" by Dan White, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 5/15/02

"In search of squid row" by Kevin Howe, The Monterey County Herald, 5/15/02